

ER 60-4890/a

28 JUN 1960

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Dr. Marko Zasic  
Executive Director  
The American Society of Ephesus, Inc.  
4712 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Zasic:

We have received your papers, "The Universal Spiritual Alliance" and "A Short History of Ephesus." I need not say that they have been read with very great interest. After having received these documents, we have reached the conclusion that the objectives they put forth would be much better advanced by some other Agency of the government, such as the Department of State, or perhaps some such non-governmental organization as the National Council of Churches.

With sincere thanks for calling this matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

Signed

Assistant to the Director

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**A Short History of Ephesus**  
"The First and Greatest Metropolis of Asia"  
"The Cradle of The Hellenic Civilization"



"A Nursery and Garden of Christianity"  
"The Second Province of God After Jerusalem"

with a precious  
**Unique Common Christian Moslem Shrine**

By

**Dr. Marko Zuzic**

**Executive Director**

A SHORT HISTORY OF ST. JOHN - THE DIVINE - INTER-165-55

"THE FIRST AND GREATEST METROPOLIS OF ASIA"  
"THE CRADLE OF THE HELLENIC CIVILIZATION"  
"A NURSERY AND GARDEN OF CHRISTIANITY"  
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UNIQUE COMMON CHRISTIAN MOSLEM SHRINE,

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THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF EPHESUS.

CONTENTS:

- ECCLESIASTICAL APPROVAL OF THE BOOK,
- DEDICATION,
- INVOCATION AND INSPIRATION
- IN THE BEGINNING.....
- CHRIST'S PRIESTLY PRAYER WITH A PRAYER TO SAINT  
JOHN THE DIVINE FOR UNITY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1. THE FIRST FOUNDERS OF EPHESUS, THE IONIANS (10th century B.C.)

An IONIAN TRIBE, under the leadership of Androktios, settled down at the Great Gulf of Ephesus -- Ephesus' great glory: the world-wide known temple and pilgrimage place to the goddess Artemis -- The famous King of Lydia, Croesus, gave his fabulous resources to the temple -- Herostratos set the temple on fire -- A new temple was built which became the seventh Wonder of the World.

2. THE SECOND FOUNDER OF EPHESUS, LYSIMACHOS, SUCCESSOR OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT OF MACEDONIA (Fourth century B.C.)

Ephesus had to relocate in an attempt to keep in touch with the sea -- Lysimachos protected the new city area with walls and towers -- Ephesus entered the Roman Empire, this is the era of its greatest expansion, during the so-called "PAX ROMANA" (Roman Peace) -- Because of their famous temple, Ephesus and Asia Minor became "The Cradle of the Hellenic Civilization"

3. THE CHRISTIAN EPHESUS

To that great, pagan city of Ephesus, Our Lord sent His first panel of men -- Five Apostles -- St. Peter established the first church in Asia Minor -- With St. John came to Ephesus the Blessed Virgin and St. Mary Magdalene -- Asia Minor and Ephesus take an important part in Christianization of the West

- IF YOU WANT to know about WHERE and HOW the Blessed Virgin Mary was proclaimed MOTHER OF GOD, and where she ACTUALLY LIVED and so a well established tradition might presumably have also died; further about the long and glorious life of ST. JOHN, Apostle and Evangelist, the places where he LIVED AND WORKED for His Divine Master, wrote his Gospel and Epistles, and where he finally died; If you want to know about St. Mary Magdalene, the greatest penitent of all times, and her tomb, and how she became an eye-witness of almost all manifestations of resurrection and finally also of the Resurrection of our Redeemer, too.
- If you want to learn more about the glorious and miraculous life of St. John and his Basilica, one of the greatest and most magnificent churches of early Christianity, where during long centuries the largest pilgrimages from the whole world flowed;
- If you want to get more familiar with the FIRST MARYEN (MARIEN) church in the world the Basilica of the Divine Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a church which would be even today the longest church in the world;
- If you want to be fully informed about the FIRST ACT OF PUBLIC CONFIRMATION AND VENERATION THE CHURCH officially and dogmatically enacted, in favor of the Virgin Mary, about a dogma which became fundamental for the whole Christian Mariology, and Christology as well, a dogma finally which became a powerful and inexhaustible source wherefrom subsequently came, during more than 1,500 years - all the honors and deepest and most beautiful devotions toward the B.V. Mary; honors and devotions culminating in the dogma of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION proclaimed by Pope Pius IX. in 1854 and the latest dogma of ASSUMPTION, proclaimed in 1950 by Pope Pius XII.
- If you want to realize how deeply are united EPHESUS AND ROME, the Oriental and Occidental parts of the One, Apostolic and Universal Church, united through the same work inaugurated in Ephesus and afterward developed and crowned in Rome;
- If you are looking for a good opportunity to fully understand the ecumenical movement launched by Pope John XXIII in the light of St. John, the Apostle and first saint of unity and primacy of St. Peter, a movement which, among many other things, opens new hopes and horizons to the whole world;
- If you want to have a look into the UNIQUE COMMON SHRINE of all Christians and Moslems, where - according to the Koran even though (usually a Christian sanctuary - the first trumpet of the Last Judgment has to resound and where Our Lord has to judge all men, of all nations, races and generations; where finally the Seven Sleepers with Mary Magdalene are waiting the Lord to be again witnesses of the general resurrection of all men with their souls and bodies;
- Finally, if you want to see in what a shameful stage now the whole Christian world are today these most holy places of early Christianity, exposed thus to all kind of voluntary and involuntary sacrifices and total destruction;
- If you are eager to know what has been undertaken by a small group of responsible and devoted Christians having in mind to preserve these precious places of our DWARFING CHURCH, in doing it in honor and in special Apostolic benediction of the Holy Father, Pope John XXIII.

DO NOT HESITATE TO ORDER - THE LONGER THE BETTER -

a new book "A SHORT HISTORY OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE MOTHER OF GOD AND THE GREATEST OF ALL CHURCHES" by the author of the "The Second Last of the Holy Land" (Jerusalem)

4. ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST, THE BELOVED DISCIPLE  
OF JESUS CHRIST, THE THEOLOGIAN - THE DIVINE

From a well-to-do family - Privileged witness of the Transfiguration, as well as of the humiliation of Our Lord - At Golgotha, entrusted to take care of the Blessed Virgin - First to understand the mystery of the empty tomb of Jesus - The first to recognize Jesus at the lake of Tiberias - Confirmation by Jesus of St. Peter's primacy "FEED MY LAMBS" - "FEED MY SHEEP" - St. John, confidant of St. Peter and the intercessor with Jesus

5. CONTRIBUTION OF ASIA MINOR IN THE CHRISTIANIZATION OF THE WORLD  
AND DEFENSE OF THE PURITY OF THE FAITH - First Eight Ecumenical Councils of our Church held in Asia Minor.

Asia Minor sent special groups of new disciples to the West. Thus it became "The Nursery and Garden of Christianity" - "The Second Province of God, after Jerusalem" - "The Golden Ring linking Christianity with the Apostles" - During the first centuries Asia Minor had the greatest number of churches in the entire world - Unique area with a large majority of Christian population - The first Eight Ecumenical Councils held in Asia Minor - The Athanasian Creed -

6. ST. JOHN'S BASILICA IN EPHEBUS - "This is my resting place forever, here will I dwell".

The Gate of Persecution - The tomb and first church - The Justinian Basilica - The Fourth Gospel and Epistles of St. John written in Ephesus - Death of St. John - Legend about the assumption of St. John, with his soul and body, into Heaven - Description of the original tomb and churches -

7. THE CHASTE AND YOUTHFUL ST. JOHN IN THE SACRED ARTS - The various artists - St. John's vision of the Apocalypse - St. John's symbol -

8. THE LITURGICAL FEAST DAYS OF ST. JOHN -

9. RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF THE HOLY PLACES IN EPHEBUS - Preservation and restoration of the St. John's Basilica - Preservation and restoration of the first St. Mary's Church in the world, the Basilica of the Ecumenical Council of 431 - Support to the Holy St. John built for the Blessed Virgin - Support and encouragement of the Turkish Government - Turkey as first forefront in defense of Christianity: Antecurale Cristianitatis

10. BASILICA OF THE SEVEN SLEEPERS AND TOMB OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE - a common Christian and Moslem Shrine

A unique Christian and Moslem common holy place - Legend of the Seven Sleepers and their significance - St. Mary Magdalene buried at the entrance of the Basilica of the Seven Sleepers - Messengers of resurrection -

11. URGENT NECESSITY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH IN EPHEBUS

From the point of view of Christian Archaeology and history of the Church - Archaeologists associated with restoration work in the modern Turkey

12. EPILOGUE